

Community Preservation Program

Acton 2006 Town Meeting Article 22

- Overview of Acton's Community Preservation Act (CPA) Process
- Projects recommended for Appropriation
- Conclusion



Acton's CPA Process

- CPA adopted by Acton in 2002
- Community Preservation Fund
 - 1.5% surcharge on town real estate property tax bills
 - Matched 100% by State funds
- CP Fund may only be used for:
 - Open space
 - Historic preservation
 - Community housing
 - Recreational uses



Acton's CPA Process

- Acton Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
 - Required by state statute
- Purpose
 - Study needs
 - Encourage project proposal submission
 - Facilitate an open and public deliberation process
 - Recommend appropriations from CP Fund at Town Meeting



Acton's CPA Process

- Timeline
 - 09/05 FY2005 CP Fund \$1,236,676 balance confirmed:
 - \$ 65,591 unencumbered funds from FY2004 balance
 - \$ 29,417 interest earnings
 - \$573,504 from Acton taxpayers
 - \$568,164 from state matching funds
 - 10/05 Updated CPC plan and submission guidelines
 - 11/04 Received 15 proposals
 - 02/06 Completed 3 months public hearings on proposals
 - 02/06 Finalized FY2005 appropriations recommendations



A: Open Space Set-Aside

Applicant: Acton Open Space Committee



- No eligible open space applications received
- \$400,000 set-aside for future open space purchase or protection
- Brings total set-aside to \$900,000



B: 28 Willow/214 Central Land

Applicant: Acton Community Housing Corporation



- \$160,000 to acquire property from the Town for development of up to three community housing units
- ACHC will pay \$42,500 from existing affordable housing gift funds

28 Willow St. / 214 Central St.



D: Rental Housing Planning Study

Applicant: Acton Housing Authority



Rosestone Condominiums

- 9/05 state regulations open new affordable housing funding opportunities
- \$25,000 for professional advice on how to best use these new regulations



E: New Elm St. Basketball Courts

Applicant: Acton Public Schools



*Current Elm Street
basketball courts*



New courts design concept

- \$20,000 for two new full-size basketball courts at Elm Street
- Total project cost \$40,000; \$6,000 from APS, \$14,000 from private donations
- Only full-size outdoor basketball courts in Acton



F: Leary Field Woodland Path

Applicant: A-B Regional School District



- \$25,000 for a pathway from the ABRHS upper parking lot to the new Leary Field.
- The path will be accessible for persons with disabilities.

Leary Field Woodland Path design



G: New Gates School Playground

Applicant: Acton Public Schools



- Existing structure no longer meets safety standards
- \$16,000 CP grant
- Total cost \$44,000; balance from APS (\$10,000) and private sources (\$18,000)

Gates School Playground



H: Habitat for Humanity Home

Applicant: Habitat for Humanity



Habitat for Humanity home

- \$35,000 for site prep and construction costs
- Total project cost \$100,000:
 - Private fundraising
 - Donated goods and services
- Local Habitat chapter formed in 2005
- Deed restricted to ensure home counts towards affordable housing stock



I: Jones Tavern Roof and Gutters

Applicant: Iron Work Farm in Acton, Inc.



Jones Tavern roof



Roof detail



Gutter detail

- Jones Tavern is on the National Register of Historic Places
- \$41,000 towards restoring roof, gutter and downspout replacement.
- Matched by \$8,000 in private donations



J: Historic Stone Chamber Restoration

Applicant: Town of Acton



Interior view facing out from Chamber

- \$20,000 for restoration of an historic stone chamber on the Town's Nashoba Brook Conservation Land
- Matched by \$1,000 from New England Antiquities Research Association and substantial in-kind labor donations
- Endorsed by the Town's Historical Commission and Land Stewardship Committee



K: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

Applicant: Town of Acton



- \$175,000 for design and land acquisition
- Follows up last year's \$75,000 start-up appropriation
- Highly leveraged (85%+) by federal and state grants



L: Fitzgerald Piano Preservation

Applicant: Town of Acton



Inscription reads:

In memory of
Michael & Mary Hannon
THE ACTON HIGH SCHOOL
From
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Fitzgerald
1926

Fitzgerald Piano

- \$18,000 to restore piano given by the former mayor of Boston, father of Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy & grandfather of JFK.
- \$3,000 in private donations for remaining project costs and maintenance
- Lifelong family connection to Acton
- To be displayed in the Acton Memorial Library



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Town Meeting 2006, Article 22*

M: School Street Twin Ball Fields

Applicant: Town of Acton



School Street ballfields planned field layout shown; not to scale

- \$69,000 CP fund grant; to be matched by \$36,000 in private donations
- State-owned land. Ten acre addition to existing 4 acre parcel
- Town granted a 10-year license with a 10-year renewal option in 2003



N: Town Hall Slate Roof Replacement

Applicant: Town of Acton



- \$65,470 to replace the current slate roof
- Augments last year's \$120,000 CPA appropriation; additions due to unforeseen gutter work and higher cost after bids
- Current roof is original to the building, constructed 1862-1864
- Certificate of Appropriateness has been issued by the Historic District Commission



O: Arboretum Universal Access Trail

Applicant: Town of Acton



- \$24,000 for creation of a trail to the new lilac and fragrance gardens and to existing gardens
- The trail will be accessible for persons with disabilities.
- Supported by private donations, in-kind contributions and volunteer labor.



Conclusion

FY 2005 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND BALANCE	Recommended Amounts
CP Fund Surcharge Collected in FY 2005	\$573,503.55
State CP Trust Fund Receipt, October 2005	\$568,164.00
Interest Earned FY 2005	\$29,416.76
Unencumbered funds from FY 2004 Fund Balance	\$65,591.21
Total - FY 2005 CP Fund Balance	\$1,236,675.52
Total Recommended Appropriations	\$1,150,553.40
Remaining FY 2005 fund balance	\$86,122.12

- Compelling Projects
- Thoroughly Vetted
- Public Process
- CP Funds Leveraged Wherever Possible
- Smart Growth

